

# Economic Development Newsletter



## Industry E-Newsletter Summary

The Economic Development Team continues to advocate on behalf of, and assist business within our region. With Public Health Orders and restrictions continuing to be extended, we know that this is a very difficult time for many businesses in our region.

This edition has resources to help with your recovery efforts, local workshops, as well as information and opportunities for businesses.

Please don't hesitate to contact [Kristy Forche-Baird](#) directly with any questions you may have during this time.

## Summary and Quicklinks

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## COVID SUPPORT & PROGRAMS

### COVID Support for Business

The Australian & NSW Governments have an economic package aimed at supporting businesses and individuals in the COVID-19 lockdown.

To find out the latest information about support packages for your sector visit [COVID-19 financial support for your industry | business.gov.au](https://www.business.gov.au) or [Supporting NSW during COVID-19 | Service NSW](https://www.service.nsw.gov.au). Service NSW also have a support line available 24/7 on [13 77 88](tel:137788) and COVID assistance finder tool [Disaster Assistance Finder \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.business.gov.au).

NORTEC Small Business Solutions offer Business Connect Advisors to assist businesses with business planning and support. Tony Brindley is our local Business Advisor and can be reached on [0409 117 079](tel:0409117079) or alternatively a session can be booked here - [Book Advisor \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.business.gov.au)



### COVID Restrictions

As you would be aware, The Regional NSW Lockdown has been extended until midnight Friday 10 September 2021. To ensure that you are receiving the latest and most accurate information or would like to check any details around the latest lockdown visit the NSW Government website [COVID-19 | NSW Government](https://www.nsw.gov.au).

### COVID Vaccination Information

There are a range of resources available to assist businesses owners to make decisions and inform staff regarding vaccinations. For the latest and most up-to-date information visit the below websites and download the Business kit.

- [COVID-19 vaccination – Business kit | Australian Government Department of Health](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccines | Australian Government Department of Health](#)



### **CHES Connect**

Local NGO CHES Connect has commenced working with small business operators across the Mid North Coast who have been affected by recent disasters. The Business Resilience Project is a free wellbeing service offered to SMEs and their employees, funded by the Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund.

The Project delivers strength-based, workplace wellbeing supports, providing business owners with the tools and guidance needed to support resilience and mental fitness for both themselves, and their workforce.

For further information or to connect with a [Business Resilience Mentor visit, Business Resilience Project - CHES Connect](#)



### **WORKSHOPS AND PROGRAMS**

#### **Macleay Valley Business Chamber Catchup**

The Macleay Valley Business Chamber invites all Businesses to join an impromptu catch up over zoom and share how you are going through the current lockdown.

Chamber Executive are catching up with the Minister for Finance and Small Business, Damien Tudehope, this week and your feedback or questions will help the Chamber inform the Minister on the impacts of business and what assistance is needed by regional businesses.

Please take the time to zoom in and share your story. We look forward to seeing you online.

**Date:** Wed 1 Sept 2021

**Time:** 6pm, zoom

**Register:** [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)



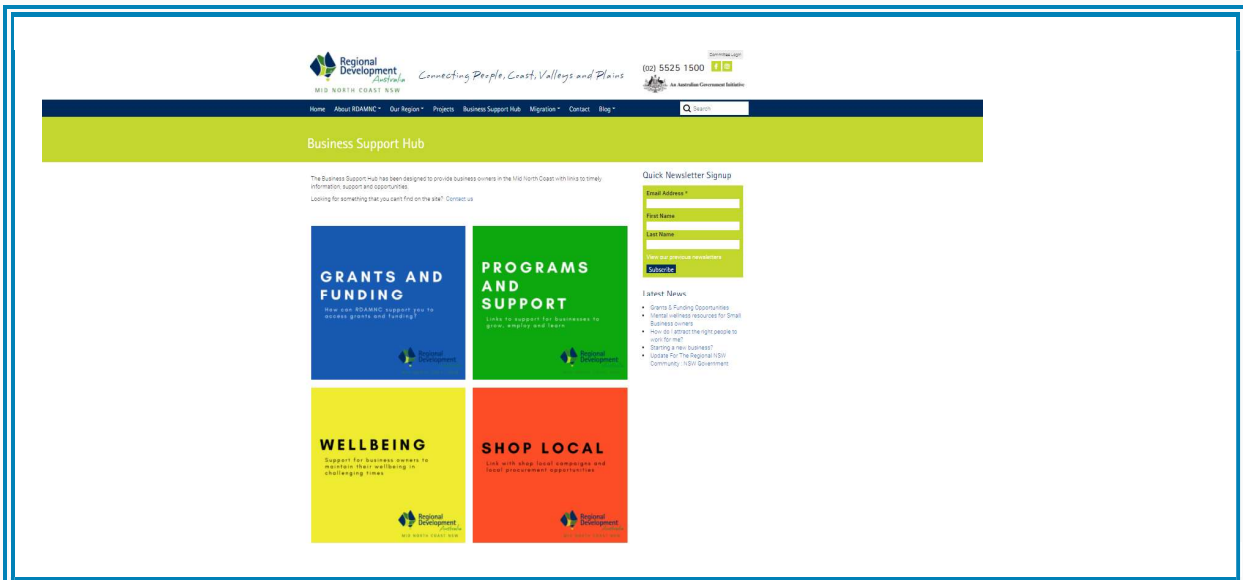
### **Business Support Hub - Regional Development Australia MNC**

RDAMNC is a not for profit organisation whose role is to support the economic development of the local government areas of Coffs Harbour, Bellingen, Nambucca, Kempsey, Port Macquarie – Hastings, Mid Coast and Lord Howe Island.

RDAMNC has launched a new Business Support Hub which is designed to help support businesses access information to help and grow their business. To find out more about:

- Grants and Funding
- Programs and Support
- Wellbeing
- Shop Local

Sign up the newsletter here [Business Support Hub - Regional Development Australia Mid North Coast NSW \(rdamnc.org.au\)](#) or visit the RDAMNC webpage.



### Kempsey Shire Council Community Grants - Now Open

The program offers grant funding to active community groups so they can deliver community led projects in a wide variety of forms that benefit the shire.

There are four different categories you can apply under:

- Mayoral Community Fund
- Sporting Grants
- Council Community Hall Grants
- Environmental Levy Grants

Applications for the 2021-2022 round will open on the 3 August and close 12 September 2021. Further information can be found here [Community grants - Kempsey Shire Council working with the Macleay Valley community \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.kempseyshire.nsw.gov.au/community-grants).



### Macleay Valley Hub - Locals Supporting Locals

Supporting our local businesses means supporting our local friends and family. This is exactly what the Macleay Valley Hub was created to do.

Now more than ever it's important to all support each other, so please [share and like the below video](#) on your digital platforms, which features local businesses and ways you can support them!

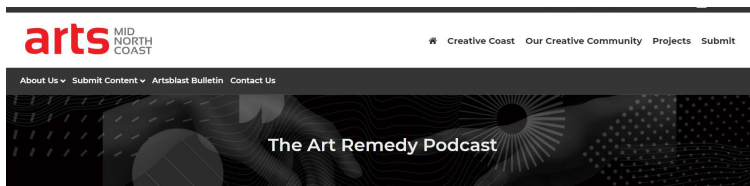


### Arts Mid North Coast ARTSBLAST

Calling all creatives, did you know about Artsblast? This e-newsletter delivers Arts & Cultural news, events + opportunities from across the Mid North Coast to your inbox.

This edition looks at some great resources and creative things happening online to keep you inspired and creating during lockdown, including the [Isolation Creation Page](#), the new [The Art Remedy](#) podcast and [Artists Essential Toolkit](#) video toolkit.

For further information visit [Arts Mid North Coast | Facebook](#) or [Arts Mid North Coast | Connecting Communities & Culture](#).



### Lodge your next Development or Planning Application online!

As of July 2021 the NSW Government launched a new platform for lodging planning applications in order to create a simpler, faster and more transparent process.

For development applications and most other planning approvals, you can use the [NSW Planning](#)

[Portal](#) to submit and monitor your application.

For guidance on this process, see Council's advice on [using the NSW Planning Portal](#)

The NSW Planning Portal also contains a number of resources to guide and assist you, including:

- [A step by step guide on how to register and start using the portal](#)
- [A step by step guide on how to lodge a DA on the portal](#)
- [Frequently asked questions](#) about technical aspects of the portal, such as password requirements, browser recommendations and accessibility.

### Seedlab Australia

This program aims to help businesses start, scale and grow to pitch to major retailers through a program of training and support from industry experts spanning business strategy, production, range, distribution and branding. It builds on the pilot incubator program with startups

Eligible applicants include food producers with the potential to scale and thrive in retail across innovative, high growth categories such as health and wellness, sustainably produced, and plant-based products.

For further information visit [Macleay Grant Hub \(grantguru.com.au\)](http://grantguru.com.au)



### Tourism and Hospitality Micro Courses

Destination NSW has partnered with Restaurant and Catering Australia to deliver 3, free online short courses - known as micro credentials - **for NSW tourism and hospitality businesses.**

The programs, delivered by Destination NSW, will be offered to individuals and businesses wishing to upgrade their customer service skills and enhance their social media capability.

#### Customer Service Program

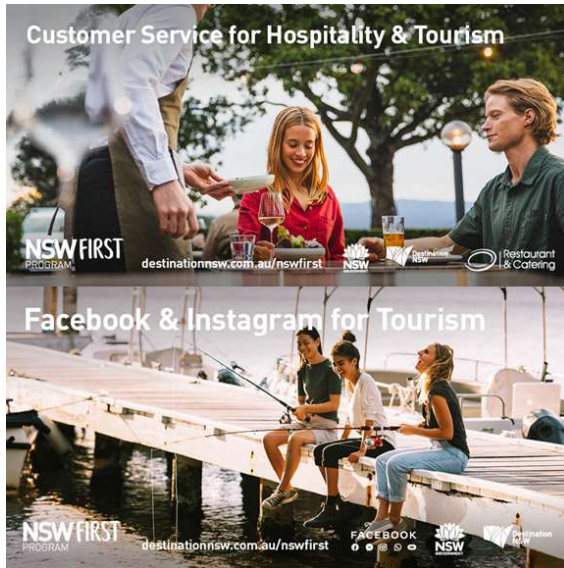
Course content covers Customer Service, Managing Customer Expectations (COVID-19), and Emotional Awareness in Customer Service, with each session being 45 minutes to 2 hours in duration. Enrol at

[Destination NSW, NSW First Customer Service Program \(rca.asn.au\)](http://rca.asn.au)



## Facebook & Instagram

Tourism businesses can join a series of 5 free Facebook and Instagram for Tourism webinars, featuring presenters from Facebook and the Destination NSW social media team. To view session dates, times and dates visit [NSW First Program - Promote - Destination NSW](#)



## Good News Story

Kirstie's Skinsational is an example of a business that has innovated to be able to deliver products and services during lockdown. With the doors shut the team have expanded their offering online and diversified their product mix. The salon now offers;

- Click and collect or delivery on products
- New at home beauty product lines
- Skin catch-ups for existing clients~ Zoom, FaceTime or simple phone call.
- Skin discovery session~ For new clients. Connecting via Zoom or FaceTime

Visit [Kirstie's Skinsational Beauty Therapy | Facebook](#) to see how this local businesses has adapted to COVID.



**We are still here for you**



Shinsational